

us, and THE STARS AND STRIPES transmitted them to the censor so that they could go home with ours.

The French caught the spirit of the day and shared in it. One grey-haired Frenchwoman, who keeps a tiny shop in Neuilly, was deeply touched by the sentiment of this American holiday. *La Journée des Mères*, of which she read accounts in the French newspapers. She had been alone in the world since the Germans killed her husband and her two fine boys, but she remembered well what their letters from the front had meant to her, and she knew what such letters must mean to mothers on the other side of the world. So, after thinking about it a good while, she drew from her meager stock a hundred sheets and a hundred envelopes, did them up in a bundle and carried them under her black shawl to the nearest depot of the Red Cross.

"For some American soldiers to write their mothers," she said, "was gone before any one could thank her."

#### Villagers Share in Celebration

Far up in a forest-clearing, 50 miles from anywhere, a little outpost of American woodsmen, stationed there to work the timber, shared their celebration with all the people of the little hill-country village, and it was the old shoemaker across the way from the church who played the violin for their services.

One officer of the Red Cross at 10 o'clock on the morning of Mother's Day was standing in the rain addressing more than 2,000 members of an ammunition train.

"How many of you have written your mother today?"

Three-quarters of the men raised their hands. Most of the rest wrote their letters before noon. The Red Cross man suddenly remembered that he had his own to write. It occurred to him that he would do a march over every one else by sending his over the cables, so he hustled to a lone Signal Corps station in the Lorraine sector and found to his amused surprise that 20 officers were waiting there in line. They were all sending Mothers' Day.

As a matter of fact, the cable officers were fairly choked with messages, some of them sent not by men but by regiments. Such and such a unit would send back word to the mothers of their home town that all the boys were feeling fine and hoped they were the same.

#### In All Languages

The letters were of all kinds and in all languages. They were written in all manner of places and to all manner of people the world around. For not all of us have mothers to write to. One boy, however, spent all that Sunday afternoon happy in the writing of a long letter to his dear mother because, he explained, it made him feel somehow as if he were visiting with her.

It is our privilege to read over two shoulders bent in the toil of composition. A grey-haired major, whose years in our Army have been many and honorable, tore out the letter from the beautiful Mother's Day booklet of which the Y.M.C.A. distributed hundreds of thousands and wrote this:

To the Mother of My Children:  
I am thinking of you today and undimmed tears dim my eyes. My heart is filled with tenderness and longing and love for you. To be the father of our dear children is greater than to be the queen of an empire. To have given them their dear lives for your own life with glory. You are the gift of God to me, and because of you I have been able to meet the years with bravely and without.

And a Polish boy, to whom writing in English is still something of an adventure, wrote to his mother in Chicago:

This is Mother's Day. I am in a way from home on the day it was celebrated. I can't think of my mother and home. I'll come home again and see her after the war and when I come home I'll tell her about the Red Cross and about being ashamed. Out in France I fight for Poland and for America. She is crying for me. I have a Mother for she has been good to me. When I was a small boy and when I was in the army she was in the care of me but her. When I was sick she was the only one who took care of me at home. I remain your son.  
FRANK P.

#### In Every Part of France

So they went, these Mothers' Letters which THE STARS AND STRIPES planned as part of the observance of a day which was celebrated in every part of France.

Every Y.M.C.A. hut was packed from sun up to sun down, with the voices lifted at night in song services that made much of "Mother Macree" and the hymns that mother used to like. The supply of carnations in France was soon exhausted, for every soldier who could lay his hand on one sported the flower that is the emblem of Mother's Day.

The supply of New Testaments ran out, for the demand for them took a sudden spurt and outran all reasonable expectations. Though the "Y" huts were stocked with unprecedented supplies of paper, though the Red Cross had sent out an extra 100,000 sheets and envelopes, the paper crisis became acute in many a section before the day was half gone.

#### Marshall Joffre at Celebration

The celebrations were of every sort in every kind of place on sea and land. In a beautiful palace in Paris, Marshal Joffre, Henri Bergson and other great folk of France observed the day by organizing before a great company a scheme for opening up to homeless American soldiers the hospitalities of the hearths of France.

In a Paris hotel, 60 men of the Purchasing Division of the Ordnance Department held a Mother's Day dinner. Up front, on the sunny side of an old tree which a shell had uprooted, a group of soldiers held a service of their own, and there were services in the great cathedrals.

And down at a busy port, in front of a stevedore's hut, some Alabama dardies, accompanied by a table made of a barrel and a table cloth, lifted their rich voices in the strains of "MOTHER."

## RANK NOT LOST

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officers and soldiers. Authority requested to maintain replacement organizations at such strength in officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers as may be necessary for above purposes.

The answer from Washington was the word "Approved." So every replacement organization in France will be a flexible unit which can absorb any number of officers and non-coms who may stray its way, whether from the nearest hospital or the nearest port. And so, no sick or wounded non-com from up front loses his chevrons when he joins a replacement organization.

When he has been restored to a duty status and passed on to a replacement unit, every effort will be made to forward him from there to his old home regiment, where he worked before and where all his friends are.

## ARMY TAKES OVER JOB OF HANDLING A.E.F. MAIL

M.P.E.S. Will Also Care for Express Sent to or by Soldiers

TOWN NAMES TO BE USED

Not Everywhere, But in Places Behind Advance Sections of S.O.S.

CENTRAL P.O. TO BE SET UP

Lieutenant, Six Non-Coms and Twenty Privates to Be Personnel of Each Detachment

The Army has taken over the job of distributing all mail addressed to members of the A.E.F. and of collecting and dispatching all mail sent by members of the A.E.F.

For this purpose, the Military Postal Express Service (hereinafter and forever to be known as the M.P.E.S.) has been created by general order.

The M.P.E.S. will also receive, dispatch and deliver all express parcels sent in France for the A.E.F. and will deliver the express bound for the United States to the proper express company. It will take over, develop and expand the existing motor dispatch service.

The personnel of the new M.P.E.S. will consist of a director and such officers and enlisted men as may temporarily be assigned to it for this duty. The first director (D.M.P.E.S.) is Lt. Col. Thorndike D. Howe, P.A.N.G.

The relation of the civilian postal service to the new Army organization is not yet clearly defined. The order says that the personnel of the civilian postal service may be given such standing or employment in the M.P.E.S. as is authorized by laws governing the Post Office Department.

The director will make from time to time all the necessary regulations governing the transportation of mail and express and limiting the size and weight of packages. He will establish such liaison with the military postal authorities of our Allies and with the civilian postal authorities back home as will best promote the interest of the service.

#### Chance to Let Folks Know

All soldiers who have a passion (every soldier has one) for letting their folks back home know just what part of France is enjoying their presence will be delighted to hear that under the new order all post offices in the base sections and intermediate sections of the S.O.S. may be designated by the name of the cities and towns in which they happen to be situated.

## SAILORS BACK UP WAR ORPHAN PLAN

Navy Air Station Men Become Parrains to Six Year Old Girl

126 CHILDREN NOW TAKEN

Private in Engineers Pledges 50 Francs a Month to Care for Small Boy

#### TAKEN THIS WEEK

Co. C, - Engrs. Ser. Bn.	1
Co. G, - Inf.	1
Ambulance Co. No. 2, Div.	2
Officers, Motor Reception Park, B.S.	1
Co. B, - M.G. Bn.	4
Co. C, - M.G. Bn.	4
Windy City Bn., Engrs. Ry.	1
Co. B, - Inf.	1
Co. B, 3rd Bn., Engrs. Ry.	1
Engrs. Ry. (all)	1
Personnel, Office of Chief Q.M.	1
U.S. Navy Air Station	1
Co. A, - Field Sig. Bn.	1
Co. B, - Field Sig. Bn.	1
4th Platoon, Co. C, Field	1
Sign. Bn.	1
Previously adopted	104
Total	126

The Navy backed up the Army this week in THE STARS AND STRIPES orphan adoption plan. The U.S. Navy Air Station near an American base port dispatched its 500 francs and became a parrain, asking for a girl six years old to father for a year. Thus every branch of the A.E.F. is represented in the list of adopters—save one.

We're not mentioning any names, but our cartoonist, who belongs to this branch of the service and looked it until he ruined his disposition by camouflage painting him in an O.D. uniform—has felt it necessary to make a defense.

"Guys," he explained, "is kind hearted, all right, but we haven't had any money since we been in France. France has been as scarce as steam heat in an Adrian hat." And if our cartoonist is a typical example, the explanation is clear. He—like we won't say anything about it publicly.

All told, 15 A.E.F. organizations sent in requests for 22 orphans during the week, running the total of adoptions to 126. At least half of the new parrains are on the front.

#### Money Gathered Under Flee

Two machine gun companies which already have made a name for themselves in action adopted four children each. One signal platoon and two signal companies gathered their adoption money under fire, and an ambulance company attached to a division now in the trenches sent in a request written by pencil in a dugout.

"We have been reading with interest and satisfaction of the developments in the baby adoption plan," wrote the ambulance men, "and we wish to congratulate THE STARS AND STRIPES on the successful launching of the plan and the more successful execution of it."

"Ambulance Co. No. — is glad, and considers it a privilege, to add in a worthy cause of this kind. Enclosed is 1000 francs. We would ask that we be assigned a brother and sister, children of a French soldier who has made the supreme sacrifice for the cause of justice."

"The first subscription of 500 francs was taken a few days ago in less than

## STOCK RISE GENERAL DESPITE LOAN DRIVE

Market Leaders Close 5 to 17 Points Above Year's Low Marks

DELAWARE IN FIRST PLACE

More Than 20,000 Counties and Cities Fly Honor Flags After Bond Campaign

By J. W. MULLER

American Staff Correspondent of THE STARS AND STRIPES

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, May 16.—The financial situation presents an unexpected surprise. There has been a general rise in stocks after the end of the Liberty Loan campaign, whereas everybody anticipated the reverse as the natural result of tying up money.

The leading stocks closed Saturday from 5 to 17 points above the low mark of the year, and this occurred in face of the fact that the income and excess profit taxes are due this June.

Complete returns from the Liberty Loan are not yet in, but more than 20,000 counties and cities fly honor flags. The Chicago district leads with 4,965. The Minneapolis district is second with 3,011. The Cleveland district has 1,999; the Boston district 1,993; the Atlanta, 1,911; the Philadelphia, 1,732; the St. Louis, 1,961, the small number for St. Louis being accounted for because the flags went only to whole counties out there.

Delaware has taken the state honors by subscribing more than twice the sum assigned to it and leads all the states in women's subscriptions, which alone equal 120 per cent of the State's quota.

Topeka, Hartford, Birmingham, Washington and Boston lead their respective percentages of the cities to date in the percentages of their quota subscribed. Hartford leads in all five classes with 251 per cent.

The following are the record cities:

#### The Record Cities

Population 25,000 to 50,000.—Topeka, 202 per cent; Macon, 141; Augusta, Ga., 119; Montgomery, Ala., 112; Tampa, 115; Chattanooga, 124; Knoxville, 142; Sioux City, 150; Galveston, 124; Shreveport, 122; Austin, 118; El Paso, 85; Waco, 87; Pueblo, 155; Lincoln, 14; Muskogee, 82; Quincy, Ill., 115; Little Rock, 125.

Population 100,000 to 100,000.—Hartford, 251 per cent; Salt Lake City, 112; Tacoma, 150; Savannah, 102; Jacksonville, 171; San Antonio, 117; Houston, 114; Fort Worth, 112; Dallas, 111; Duluth, 125; Des Moines, 145; St. Joseph, 164; Kansas City, Kan., 168; Wichita, 97; Cincinnati, 134; Evansville, Ind., 130; Watertown, 173; Portland, Me., 212; Holyoke, 120; New Bedford, 149; Springfield, Mass., 117; Manchester, N. H., 129.

Population between 100,000 and 500,000.—Birmingham, 186; Seattle, 122; Portland, Ore., 126; Oakland, Cal., 104; Atlanta, 118; Nashville, 122; Richmond, 125; St. Paul, Minn., 125; Indianapolis, 121; Kansas City, Mo., 141; Denver, 100; Omaha, 151; Louisville, 189; Memphis, 100; New Haven, 116; Fall River, 138; Lowell, 133; Worcester, Mass., 122; Providence, 133.

Population above 500,000.—Boston, 163; Baltimore, 115; Chicago, 115; New York and St. Louis, over 100 per cent.

## AS WE KNOW THEM

### THE PLATOON SERGEANT

To beat the other sergeants is his only aim in life:  
With plans to hang it on 'em all his mind is always rife:  
He wants us first in marksmanship, he wants us first in line,  
And at every damn'd inspection we have got to rise and shine!

"He takes his job too seriously—the new ones all complain—  
Its true he lays it onto us with all his might and main,  
But if we're needing anything, he'll argue with the Top,  
The Skipper, or with anyone—and never lets it drop!

He chews his plug tobacco, and he ain't got much to say  
Except "More pep, you heathen!"—and we're hearing that all day,  
But if he is commissioned, we will all be sore as sin,  
Because some other Sergeant—and a worse one—will come in!

## MEURICE HOTEL and RESTAURANT

228 Rue de Rivoli (Opposite Tuileries Gardens)  
Restaurant Open to Non-Residents.

## AMERICAN UNIVERSITY UNION IN EUROPE

8 RUE DE RICHELIEU, PARIS (Royal Palace Hotel)

## The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company

PARIS BORDEAUX  
41 Boulevard Haussmann 8 Cours du Chapeau-Rouge  
LONDON: 126 Old Broad Street, E. C. 2 116 Pall Mall East, S. W. 1

### Two Other Special Agencies in the War Zone

United States Depository of Public Moneys in Paris, New York & London.

The Société Générale pour favoriser etc., & its Branches throughout France will act as our correspondents for the transactions for Members of the American Expeditionary Forces.

## KETCHIKAN'S RECORD

[BY CABLE TO THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, May 16.—You may never have heard of Ketchikan, Alaska. It's time you did. Ketchikan claims the record for the biggest proportion subscription to the Third Liberty Loan. It has a population of 3,000. Sixteen hundred of the 3,000 bought Liberty bonds—\$158,000 worth of Liberty bonds, to be exact, an average of something better than one \$50 bond for every man, woman and child in Ketchikan. Don't forget the name—Ketchikan.

### "GUILTY, SIR!"

The regiment had just moved into new quarters and was in process of "shaking down." The colonel glanced around his office and took a swift inventory. An oil can was missing.

"Hu-m-m." The colonel was deep in meditation for a moment. "Hu-m-m." Then suddenly: "Orderly, get First Sergeant Daly for me, pronto."

A minute later the Top was on the carpet.

"Daly, you old leatherneck pirate," the colonel burst out, "what the hell do you mean by stealing my oil can?"

"Guilty, sir! I didn't know it was yours."

A smile spread over the C.O.'s face. "Hu-m-m," he observed in satisfaction, "I guessed it. Now you can go get that oil can and bring it back here on the double."

Moral: When something is missing at times like these, the oldest Top in the outfit usually knows its whereabouts.

FAMILY HOTEL, 7, Ave. de Trévise.  
Full board from 10 francs.

## WILSON

8 RUE DUPHOT  
Telephone: 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862,